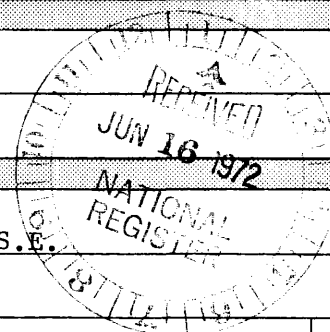


PH0001724

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 18	1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
Friendship House
AND/OR HISTORIC:
The Maples; Maple Square

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
619 D Street, S.E. or 630 South Carolina Avenue, S.E.
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11 COUNTY: District of Columbia CODE: 001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Community Center

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Friendship House Association, Inc.
STREET AND NUMBER:
619 D Street, S.E.
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Recorder of Deeds
STREET AND NUMBER:
6th and D Streets, N.W.
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Proposed District of Columbia Additions to the National Register of Historic Properties recommended by the Joint Committee on Landmarks
DATE OF SURVEY: March 7, 1968 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
National Capital Planning Commission
STREET AND NUMBER:
1325 G Street, N.W.
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JAN 18 1973

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Friendship House (The Maples) is located in the southeast sector of Washington at 619 D Street, S.E. The original main facade faces south on South Carolina Avenue, but the present business entrance is the north facade which fronts on D Street. The house which was constructed in 1795-6 by architect-builder William Lovering has retained the symmetrical quality of its Georgian character despite several additions throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. The original stables and slave quarters have been extensively remodeled and incorporated into the house.

The two-story main house is rectangular in shape and approximately 47 feet wide and 32 feet deep. It has a five-bay south facade with a slightly projecting three-bay pedimented pavilion with a bull's eye in the pediment. The gabled roof contains a chimney at the east and west ends. The grey painted brick of the main house is laid in Flemish bond on the south facade and common bond on the remainder of the building. To the east of the main house is a 1½ story addition, four bays wide with a modified hipped roof and two dormers. The addition was constructed in 1936 and replaced the 1856 Ballroom addition which had been decorated by Brumidi. A similar 1½ story addition is found immediately to the west of the house. Also built in 1936, it provides a somewhat symmetrical framing for the main house. To the west and rear of the main house are several additions erected at varying times during the history of the house and greatly altered to fit the present use of the house as a community center. At one time a portico extended from the pavilion of the south facade of the house, and a veranda with smoking gallery above was located on the north facade.

The windows throughout Friendship House have been replaced, and in the rear some new windows were added as a result of the remodeling of 1936. The south facade of the main house has 6/6-light, rectangular windows. The main entrance doorway which dates from 1936 is Georgian in inspiration with a triangular pediment supported by two fluted pilasters; the six-paneled door with fanlight also dates from 1936. All original doors were removed from the building because of fire regulations. The rear facade of the main house is four bays wide with rectangular windows.

According to legend there is a wine cellar 42 feet below grade which was installed by Count Louis Francis de Pourtales sometime during the 1850-60's. Although its location at present seems to be lost, it is surmised that the cellar was located in the front of the house near the south entrance.

The interior of the main house contains a central hall with two rooms on either side. Although the interior has been greatly altered, there are some original remaining elements such as the cherry railing of the main stairway as well as the chair rails in the downstairs rooms. The floors are not original; the marble mantelpieces replaced the original wooden ones and were installed by Mrs. Emily Edson Briggs.

The grounds in front of the south facade are now used as a recreation area for the children. The north entrance is approached through a series of steps leading to a brick courtyard defined by the rear of the main house plus the additions. Although the ground under the main house is unexcavated, there is an area under the rear west wing that contains a basement level.

Prior to its service as Friendship House, The Maples underwent extensive restoration under the guidance of restoration architect Horace Peaslee in 1936.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☒ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

built 1795-6

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☒ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☒ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☐ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Philosophy☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Social/Humanitarian☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☒ Other (Specify)Community Center

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated Friendship House (the Maples) a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. The house which was built in 1795-6 by builder-architect William Lovering for William Mayne Duncanson still retains many of its Georgian elements. Despite many additions in the subsequent two centuries it has retained its dignity and character. The house has been owned by many prominent Americans including Francis Scott Key, Major Augustus Nicholson, Senator John Middleton Clayton of Delaware, and Mrs. Emily Edson Briggs. In 1814 the house served as a hospital for soldiers wounded in the Battle of Bladensburg. Today the house serves as a community center for almost 50,000 persons who live in the area bounded by East and South Capitol Streets and the Anacostia River.

The first owner of The Maples was William Mayne Duncanson, a prosperous Anglo-Indian who came to America with Thomas Law. He visited the city of Washington in 1795 and invested heavily in city lots. Duncanson's loans and purchases of real estate in the District eventually amounted to between \$60,000-70,000. He paid \$960 for the land on which The Maples now stands, and it is said that there was a small frame house on the property at the time he bought it. William Lovering, who furnished many of the designs for Morris and Greenleaf, designed Duncanson's house. Duncanson moved into the house in 1796 and by 1800 he had experienced financial ruin. He had lent substantial funds without sufficient security and the debtors defaulted. His business partner Ray had proven unreliable, and his involvement with the real estate transactions of Greenleaf, Morris and Law secured his financial collapse.

In 1809 the house came into the hands of trustees in bankruptcy and by decree of the Court of Chancery Francis Scott Key became trustee in charge. The house was occupied in August of 1814 as a hospital for soldiers wounded in the Battle of Bladensburg. (War of 1812.)

In 1815 Francis Scott Key bought The Maples. Although he did not live in the house at the time of purchase, it is possible he resided there while serving as United States District Attorney for the District of Columbia in 1833.

In July of 1838, Major Augustus A. Nicholson, Quartermaster of the Marines bought The Maples. Nicholson was a bon vivant, and entertained lavishly; the house soon became the center for military entertaining. After the death of his first wife, Nicholson married Sallie Carroll, one of the daughters of Daniel Carroll of Duddington. (Legend has it that after Mrs. Nicholson committed suicide, her ghost walked the house accompanied by soft

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Information provided by Mr. Harold Mansfield of Friendship House and pamphlets published by Friendship House.

Clark, Allen C. Greenleaf and Law in the Federal City. Washington, D.C.: 1901.

"William Mayne Duncanson." Records of the Columbia Historical Society. Vol. 14. Washington, D.C.: 1911.

Eberlein, Harold Donaldson and Cortlandt Van Dyke Hubbard. Historic Houses in Georgetown and Washington City. Richmond: Dietz Press, Inc., 1958.

W.P.A. Washington City and Capital. Federal Writers' Project, 1937.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	38°	53'	02"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	76°	59'	53"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 28,418 Sq. Ft.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Suzanne Ganschinietz, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: National Capital Planning Commission DATE: November 1, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
1325 G Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington, D.C. STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Title Deputy Mayor-Commissioner

Date

JUN 8 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert Van Utey
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

1/18/73

ATTEST:

Lowell Mumford
Keeper of The National Register

Date

1.9.73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 18 1973	

(Number all entries)

8. Significance - Friendship House - The Maples

strains of music.)

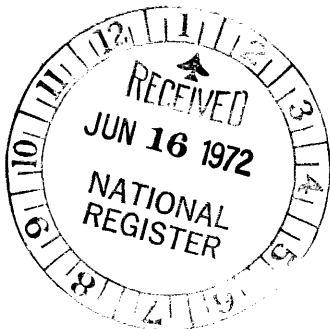
The Honorable John Middleton Clayton of Delaware bought the house on June 2, 1856. Clayton was President Zachary Taylor's Secretary of State from 1849-1850 and one of the negotiators of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty in 1850. In 1856, at the time of the purchase of the house, he was serving as Senator from Delaware. Clayton added a ballroom to the east side of the house for his daughter and commissioned Constantino Brumidi, artist of the frescoes of the Capitol Building, to decorate the ballroom. Clayton died in 1856, five months after purchase of the property.

Count Louis Francois de Pourtales bought the property on April 20, 1858. Pourtales came to America with naturalist Louis Agassiz and devoted his life to scientific research. He was an expert oceanographer and a prolific writer. Legend has it that he constructed a wine cellar 42 feet underground, the entrance to which has been lost today.

In 1871 Mrs. Emily Edson Briggs bought the house. Mrs. Briggs was well-known in her day by her pen name "Olivia" and was the first woman press correspondent to have access to the White House. During the time she lived in the house, she called it "Maple Square." She changed the mantles to marble and enlarged the house to twenty-one rooms. Her daughter-in-law, Mrs. J. Edson Briggs, retained ownership of the property until it was acquired by Friendship House in 1936.

The money for the purchase and remodeling of The Maples was given to Friendship House by an anonymous donor. Additions were made to the east and west of the original house, and the Little Theatre was built on the site of the old ballroom. Additional funds were donated for the Annex and development of the grounds. The remodeling and additions were done by restoration architect Horace Peaslee.

Friendship House, founded in 1904, is the oldest settlement house in the District. The program has grown from day care, counseling, club groups and residential camping to include consumer action, cultural arts and economic development.



76° 59' 53" W. Long

76° 59' 48" W. Long.
38° 53' 16" N. Lat.

Friendship
Community House
630 S. Carolina Ave.
S.E.



38 53 16

N 383.000

SCALE 1"=400'



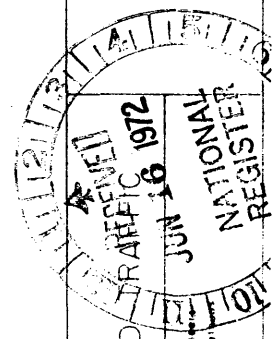
INTERVAL 5 FEET



N 382.000

MATCH TO SHEET 6089

N 381.000



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

Prepared By AL STEIN & ASSOCIATES, INC. Engineering
Washington, D.C. Existing Aerial Photographs No. 1
Aerial Photographs Taken February 1965

38° 52' 36" N. Lat.